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#### WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Michigan Worker Deaths of 2015

The 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan worker deaths of 2015 occurred on April 15, 18, 24, and May 1, 2015. Employers and employees are urged to use extreme care and safety diligence in all work activities.

Summary of incident #3: On April 15, 2015, at approximately 3:30 p.m., a 49-year-old laborer was aloft in the base of a tree trunk where the two sections meet up (tree crotch) removing a trunk section. The trunk section kicked back after being cut, striking the employee resulting in fatal injuries.

Summary of incident #4: On April 18, 2015, at approximately 12:00 p.m., a 41-year-old shipping coordinator was directing trucks into the loading bay where trucks drive into and out of to be loaded with steel. After directing one truck into the bay to be loaded, the employee was waving another up into position when the truck that just entered backed up striking the employee and crushing her.

Summary of incident #5: On April 24, 2015, at approximately 2:00 p.m., a 28-year-old painter was painting a guardrail on the third story of a house and climbed over the guardrail to paint. While holding onto a baluster and painting with the other hand, the guardrail gave way. The employee fell thirty feet to the ground.

Summary of incident #6: On May 1, 2015, at approximately 7:24 a.m., a 48-year-old part time truck driver and another employee were working on a truck to free a stuck wheel brake when the truck rolled, crushing the part time truck driver and injuring the other employee.

There were 37 MIOSHA-related deaths in 2014. 2009 saw the lowest number with 24. If you need help or assistance in ensuring your workplace is safe, MIOSHA is here with resources to help. The Consultation Education & Training (CET) Division provides workplace safety and health training and consultations to employers and employees throughout Michigan free of charge. Contact CET today at 800-866-4674 or submit a request online at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/cetrca">www.michigan.gov/cetrca</a>.

Every life is precious. Our mutual goal must be that every employee goes home at the end of their shift every day!

# **New Construction Safety and Health Division Director**

MIOSHA is pleased to announce the newest member of the leadership team. Mr. Lawrence

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Hidalgo has been selected as the new director of the MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division. Mr. Hidalgo obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from the University of Louisiana, a Juris Doctor from the Thomas Cooley Law School, and is a member of the Michigan Bar Association. Mr. Hidalgo has more than 24 years of experience as Director of the Lansing Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee. Mr. Hidalgo has an outstanding knowledge of the construction industry. Mr. Hidalgo currently serves on the Board of Trustees as Vice Chair for Lansing Community College. Mr. Hidalgo also has experience working in the construction field as a licensed electrician. Mr. Hidalgo began employment with MIOSHA on March 30, 2015. Mr. Hidalgo's education, experience, and skills will enable him to become an extremely valuable member of the MIOSHA family and leadership team.

## **National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction**

As part of the <u>National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction</u> from May 4-15, 2015, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA), Christman Company and Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Michigan joined together to host a stand-down event at the Michigan Capitol Building in Lansing on May 4<sup>th</sup>. <u>Photos of event</u>.

During the event, MIOSHA Director Martha Yoder and Christman Company Safety Director Don Staley gave remarks about the importance of fall protection at the Capitol Building project. Paul Wrzesinski of the AGC of Michigan provided employee training on fall protection awareness including a demonstration on the proper use of fall protection equipment.

Other MIOSHA partnership sites that are holding stand down events include:

- Detroit Edison North MATS project DTE Energy
- Ann Arbor Waste Treatment Plant project Walsh Construction
- Cobo Center project Detroit Regional Conventional Facility Authority
- University of Michigan North Campus project Granger Construction
- Grand Valley State University Lab project

   Pioneer Construction
- Tech Plaza project NCS Construction Services
- Gateway Project- Fremont Wolverine Building Group
- CMU BioScience Research Center project Clark Construction Company
- US-31 / M-72 Road Construction project Team Elmer's
- State Emergency Operations Center project Christman Daniels

Falls are a leading cause of death for construction workers in the state and the nation. Between 2010 and 2014, 41 percent of the fatalities in Michigan's construction industry consisted of falls. As Michigan enters the construction season, MIOSHA is reminding employers and workers of the importance of fall prevention.

# Injury and Illness Investigations in the General Industry Safety and Health Division

Compliance officers in the General Industry Safety and Health Division (GISHD) periodically investigate injuries and illnesses based on workers compensation reports. Investigations relate to injuries or illnesses that have occurred within the past six months.

Most of the health investigations are for burns (chemical or thermal) and have resulted in personal protective equipment violations and citation issuances. The most commonly cited sections of Part 433, Personal Protective Equipment, related to burns are:

- Part 433, Personal Protective Equipment Standard, Rule 5(1), that requires an employer
  to assess the workplace to determine if hazards are present, or are likely to be present,
  that necessitate the use of personal protective equipment.
- Part 433, Personal Protective Equipment Standard, Rule 8(1), that requires an employer to ensure that each affected employee uses appropriate eye or face protection when exposed to eye or face hazards from:
  - (a) Flying particles.
  - (b) Molten metal.
  - (c) Liquid chemicals.
  - (d) Corrosive materials.
  - (e) Air contaminants.
  - (f) Radiation.



- Part 433, Personal Protective Equipment Standard, Rule 10, that requires an employer to select and require employees to use appropriate hand protection when employees' hands are exposed to hazards, such as:
  - (a) Skin absorption of harmful substances.
  - (b) Severe cuts or lacerations.
  - (c) Severe abrasions.
  - (d) Punctures.
  - (e) Chemical burns.
  - (f) Irritating materials.
  - (g) Thermal burns.
  - (h) Harmful temperature extremes.

### AGENCY INSTRUCTIONS/MEMOS ISSUED

March 26, 2015 – Crane and Derrick Inspections in Construction Operations

### **MEDIA**

April 7, 2015 – <u>Team Elmer's and MIOSHA Sign Partnership to Protect Workers During Reconstruction of US-31/M-72</u>

April 7, 2015 – Employers and Workers have 'Coffee with MIOSHA' in Detroit to Talk Workplace Safety and Health

April 17, 2015 – MIOSHA Training Institute Graduates Recognized at Michigan Safety Conference

April 28, 2015 – MIOSHA Observes Workers' Memorial Day, Honors Michigan Workers who Have Died on the Job

All of the MIOSHA Press Releases can be viewed from our website.

#### **VARIANCES**

Variances from MIOSHA standards must be made available to the public in accordance with Part 12, Variances (R408.22201 to 408.22251). MIOSHA variances are published on the MIOSHA News website: <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/mioshavariances">www.michigan.gov/mioshavariances</a>.

### **QUICK LINKS**

Agency/Division Instructions/Memorandums

Consultation Education & Training (CET) Division

CET Request for Consultative Assistance Services

**CET Training Calendar** 

Construction Safety & Health Division (CSHD)

**DVD/Video Library Service** 

Employee Safety, Health and Discrimination Complaint Forms

General Industry Safety & Health Division (GISHD)

Laboratory & Equipment Services

MIOSHA Training Institute (MTI)

Telephone, Mailing and Email Addresses

Visit our website to subscribe or unsubscribe from our MIOSHA Email Subscriptions.

For more frequent updates on MIOSHA activities, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha">www.michigan.gov/miosha</a>. Like us on <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>Facebook</u></a> and <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>www.michigan.gov/miosha</u></a>. Like us on <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>Facebook</u></a> and <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>www.michigan.gov/miosha</u></a>. Like us on <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>Facebook</u></a> and <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>www.michigan.gov/miosha</u></a>. Like us on <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>www.michigan.gov/miosha</u></a>. Like us on <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/miosha"><u>www.michigan.gov/miosha</u></a>. The statement of the statement o

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